

REMARKS

Claims 1, 4, and 7-12, are all the claims pending in the application. Claims 2, 3, 5, and 6, have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. Reconsideration and allowance of all the claims are respectfully requested in view of the following remarks.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 112

The Examiner rejected claims 1, 3-4, and 6-12, under §112, 1st paragraph, as failing to comply with the enablement requirement. Specifically, the Examiner asserts that the phrase “layer” appears to be incorrect due to a translation error and, instead, should be “depth”. Along these lines, Applicants have amended “layer” to be -- region from the surface--. In light of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw this rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 102

The Examiner rejected claims 1, 3-4, and 6-12, under §102(e) as being anticipated by US Patent 6,276,210 to Kiuchi et al. (hereinafter Kiuchi). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection because Kiuchi fails to disclose all of the elements as set forth in the claims.

The Examiner asserts that Kiuchi discloses a power roller bearing. However, according to claim 1 as now presented, at least one of an input disk and an output disk is set forth, and a power roller is excluded. By applying the presently claimed method to at least one of an input disk and an output disk, it is possible to obtain an effect of reducing the bending fatigue breakage or rupture in these elements. On the contrary, Kiuchi does not disclose applying his method to at least one of an input disk and an output disk.

For at least the above reason, Kiuchi fails to anticipate claim 1. Likewise, Kiuchi fails to anticipate dependent claims 4 and 7-12.

Conclusion

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the

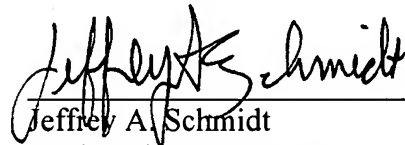
Amendment Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116
US Appl. 10/803,920

Atty. Docket: Q80601

Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,


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